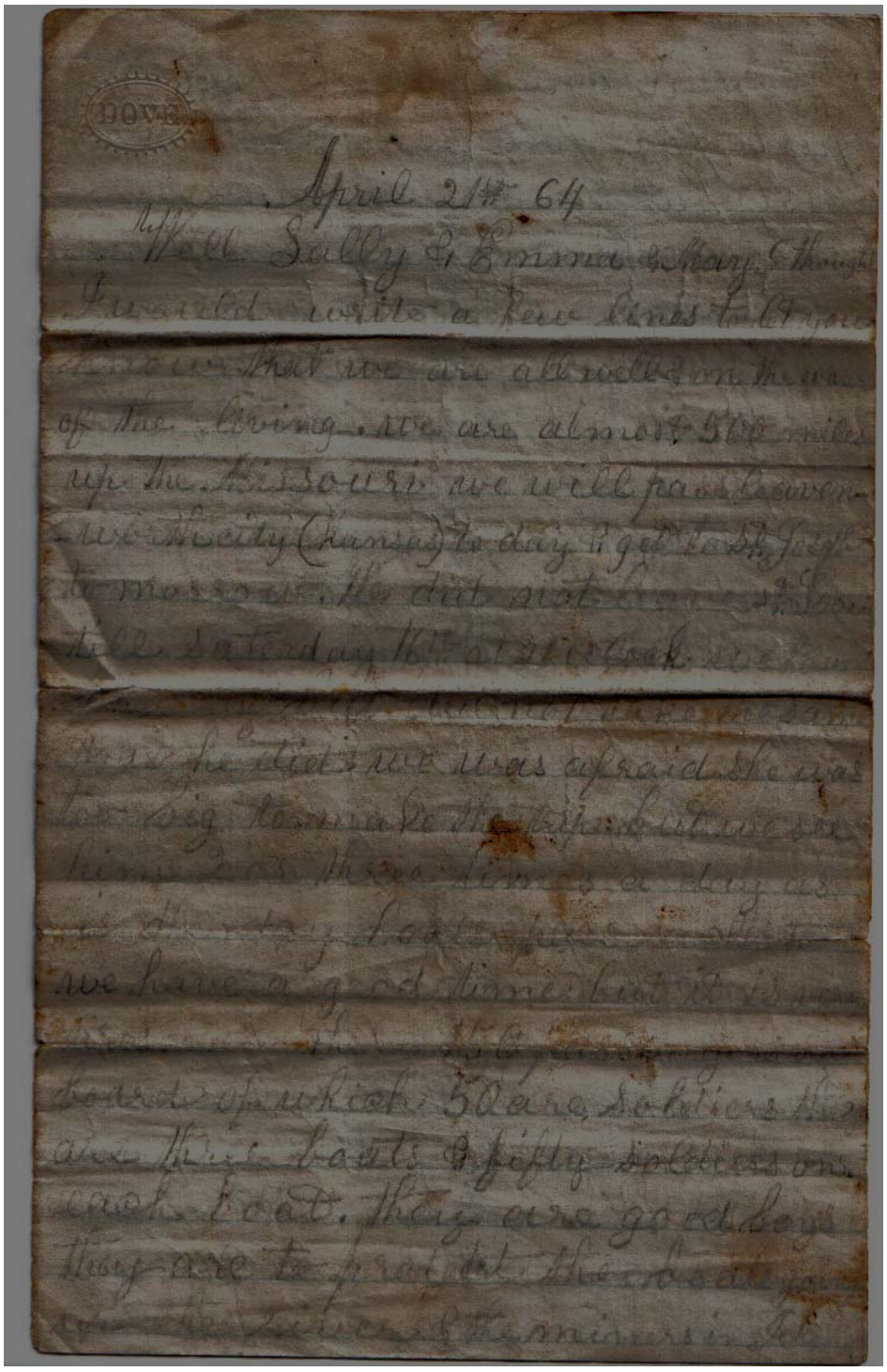

We are on a new boat but just for Fort Benton. She is not fast but runs very nice. Her name is the (Yellow Stone) We got in with a California miner in St Louis & the 7 of us laid in provision & lots together. He is a fine man I think & he will do us some good when we get to Ida. There are about 60 miners on our boat. We have a pleasant time looking at things as we pass along. & shooting at wild ducks & geese & pelicans which there are thousands of. the passengers & officers all have revolvers & the best of guns. & the boat has lots of guns &

today Pauls & Sims & tomorrow Browns & Alices & our Californian keeps things in a quiet. So if you & nancy wants to know when we cook just turn every third day from yesterday (20th) we have plenty to eat & very good places to sleep. it will be a long tiresome trip & we may get there in 40 or 45 days but I believe it will take 60 [illegible] 20 clothes 15 making about $110 in all, & it will 10 dollars to take us from Fort Benton to Bannock or Virginia city. I expect we will go to Virginia city. & I want you to write two letters one to Bannock city Idaho & the other to Virginia city Idaho & start them about the 10th of